

Mr. Chairman

Gentlemen.

copy

I wrote this up.

at the Stake House to group of water power. state & local.

Gave at a meeting Glen & I were to.

The early settlers along Daniel Creek were

so badly in need of water to supplement what water came from the Daniel Canyon watershed, especially when the flush water had gone by, that in 1879 Hiram Oaks with a few helpers set out to investigate how and survey a canal to bring water from the Strawberry valley, around by a mountain ditch and drop it over the head of McGuire Canyon into the Daniel Creek drainage. This survey was made with a spirit level and a plumb-bob. Work was divided out or sold to the settlers by the rod and water stock in the company was received for part of the labor which received \$1.⁵⁰ per day wage and long hours. They also assessed themselves to get this work completed. The Strawberry canal was about 3 miles long ^{had a capacity of 3.3 sec. feet} and cost about \$3000 to build being completed by 1882. This canal company was incorporated under the laws of the Territory of Utah Jan. 30, 1883.

Some \$1,000 was expended by the Strawberry Co. in 1890 to start building the Willow Creek Canal just a short distance down the hillside and parallel to the Strawberry ditch but they abandoned this venture. However others of the settlers and some of the stockholders in the Strawberry canal, went ahead and constructed this ditch by the same

Water

means that the Strawberry ditch was constructed. This Willow Creek Canal was about 7 miles long with a capacity of 21 second feet. Also a 1000 foot tunnel had to be run to drop the water over into McGuire canyon. This canal was completed in 1893 at a cost of over \$15,000. These ditches are on the ^{north side of the}

Also the Murdock, Point of Pine & McDonald and Hubble Creek ditches were maintained in these early years to bring over early high water, for the practice has been, when the water in Daniel Creek starts to go down then these ditches bring water to hold the canyon stream up. Later the Strawberry & Willow Creek canal waters are brought over. The Hubble Creek ditches ^{on the south side of Strawberry valley} come through very rocky ground but are not too hard to maintain. They only bring early water. We do need to have work done on them tho.

The Strawberry and Willow Creek ditches have been very hard problems for our company. The present Daniels Irrigation Co. which was incorporated in 1922 when the Strawberry, Willow Creek, Hubble Creek and Daniels Creek Irrig. Companies joined together. We have needed good headgates to turn the water into our canals and we have a terrific problem of having water get away from us through a porous ledge section of 3500 feet of our canals and of big holes open

ing up in the bottom of the canals. A lot of this trouble has come from so many years of a poor snow cover which has caused an excessive lowering of the ground water table. That has let the earth loosen up until water can seep through everywhere.

Also we are bothered with beaver making dams across the canals, backing up the water and causing bad breaks. Also cattle & sheep trailing back and forth wear the banks down. We keep a ditch watcher on the job continuously from the time the water is put in the ditches until it is so low it doesn't pay longer.

These conditions we fight continuously along with the inability of getting many workers out.

We had so much trouble with cave-ins in the tunnel and at the west end that at one time we tried to get the whole thing washed out but that was unsuccessful.

Finally we got Thos H. Adams, a consulting engineer from Salt Lake to go over our system and plot out a plan for enlarging the Willow Creek canal to hold all the water of both canals so as to eliminate the Strawberry canal. His plan also called for lining the tunnel with a concrete pipe which we did in 1947 at a cost of more than \$7000.00. It has been well worth it.

Ready cash is a drawback to the kind of work we have to undertake. So we have tried to get a loan through the State Water and Power Board, and believe by spring funds will be available for us to start this long planned improvement.

In the meantime we learned we could get help from the Soil Conservation District people, so contacted them for advice and help to improve our headgate structure, measuring devices, etc. In May 1951, from plans that the Soil Conservation Engineers drew up, our company had two concrete gates built into the local canal where two or three streams are to be divided, and we are to build another like gate.

Glen Casper, our president, says these gates are very good in dividing the streams, in low water especially. So different from the old leaky wooden gates we were afflicted with. Parshall flume measuring devices were put in through the Conservation advice on two of the canals that come out of Daniels Creek which Ike Baum, who measures our water for us, says are the best measuring devices in the country. These enable our watermasters to read exactly the amount of water coming out into our local canals each day. Mr. Grandy also went over our valley canal system and found them in the bad repair mentioned above.

He also had an aerial map made of our valley and local canal systems from which, maybe, in years to come rearrangements can be made in our local canals to better facilitate the handling of our water.

I believe that I am correct in saying that our irrigation company is the only irrigation ^{co} that brings water from another watershed into Heber valley unless some of the other companies get water from the Weber. In going over old records I can see the many problems the stockholders have had to contend with down through the years that has taken so much maintenance. During the 25 years I have been secretary for the company I have recorded many such problems too. But with competent advice and help now we are sure we can surmount all our troubles and eventually have a good irrigation setup.

I would also like to say that we have had help by payments through the Triple A. to get our headgates, measuring devices and help on the intake to our diversion tunnel.